

Substantive Policy Statement: Applicable Construction Standards for Psychiatric Hospitals
January 18, 2001

It is the policy of the Department of Health Services, through its Division of Assurance and Licensure Services, that in view of the new construction standards adopted in November 2000, published in the Dec. 22, 2000 Register, and embodied in a revised R9-1-412(A)(3), the standards found therein for psychiatric special hospitals shall be applied to all new construction for psychiatric facilities for licensure purposes. The effect of the adoption of the *Guidelines for Design and Construction of Hospital and Health Care Facilities* and appendixes, 1996-7 edition, which now includes construction standards for psychiatric hospitals, at the revised R9-1-412(A)(3), is the superceding of the requirement found at R9-10-432(1) that new construction of psychiatric hospitals must conform to the requirements for long-term care facilities listed in the old *Guidelines for Construction and Equipment of Hospital and Medical Facilities*, previously found at R9-1-412(F). Applicants for licensure must conform to the newly adopted standards for psychiatric hospitals in order to be licensed.